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WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN
SASKATCHEWAN.
1949.



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women's and
children's
rights
in
Saskatchewan



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INTRODUCTION

Rights and privileges are the very foundation of our democratic way of life. And one of the most important functions of government is the preservation of our rights.

Legislation is necessary to protect and preserve these rights, and many of the laws on our statute books are a recognition of the rights of women and children as contributing and vital members of every community.

New and progressive programs of education, health and social aid have opened the doors of knowledge, well-being, and security to children and their mothers.

Legislation affecting women as workers, farmers' wives, property owners and as ordinary citizens has established their rights and given them a new sense of security as responsible members of their communities.

This booklet is a summary of that body of legislation drawn up to establish the rights and privileges of women and children. It is for your guidance and your help, for study, discussion and suggestion.

◀ *Rights and privileges are made and protected at the
Legislative Building, Regina.*

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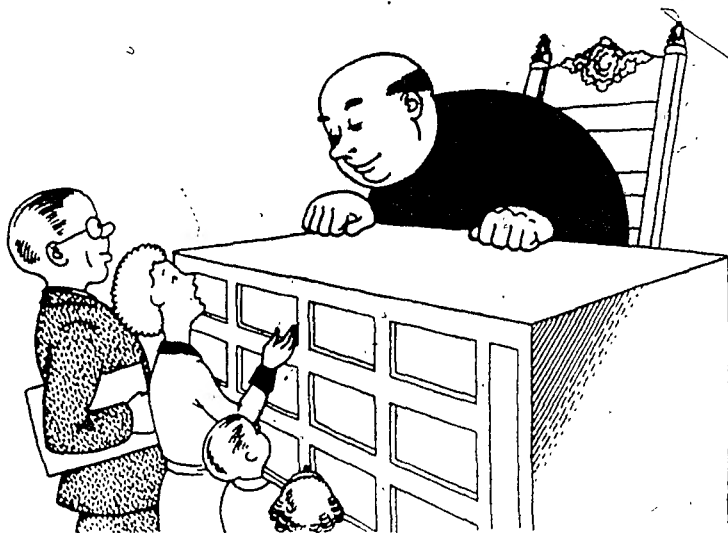
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POLITICAL AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

In Saskatchewan women enjoy equal political and property rights with men. These rights are secured under various provincial statutes.

Bill of Rights

The Saskatchewan Bill of Rights Act, 1947, guarantees to every person and every class of persons the right to freedom of conscience, to free expression, to free association, freedom from arbitrary imprisonment, and the right to the free exercise of his franchise. These freedoms are guaranteed equally to women as well as men.

The Act also guarantees to every person or class of persons without discrimination because of race, creed, religion, colour or ethnic or national origin, the right to employment, to engage in occupations, to own and occupy property, of access to public places, to membership in professional and trade associations, and to education.

The Right to Vote

Women, equally with men, have the right to vote. The Saskatchewan Election Act, as amended in 1945, lowered the voting age for both sexes from 21 to 18, for provincial elections. The City Act and The Town Act were similarly amended in 1946, lowering the voting age for city and town elections.

Affecting women as well as men, provision is made for a blind citizen to vote, or for one incapacitated by any other cause; or for one unable to read. Provision is also made to have an interpreter for a voter who cannot speak English. This is particularly important to foreign-born women who have been kept too busy at home to learn the language of the country, but who, nevertheless, are concerned in its affairs.

Women are eligible to run for seats in the Legislative Assembly, and to be elected to municipal councils.

The age for members of the Legislative Assembly has been lowered from 21 to 18 years by a 1948 amendment to the Legislative Assembly Act.

Property Rights

Every married woman, without her husband's consent, is legally capable of acquiring, holding or disposing of any real or personal property. She may deal with her property just as if she were a single woman. This is secured under the Married Women's Property Act. Her property is free from the debts of her husband, and her husband may not dispose of her property without her consent and signature. However, the Act does not have the effect of validating gifts made from husband to wife for the purpose of defrauding creditors.

The wages and personal earnings of a married woman acquired separately from her husband may be "held and enjoyed by her and disposed of without her husband's consent as fully and freely as if she were unmarried."

A married woman has the same civil remedies for the protection of her property as if she were single. She may sue

or be sued without being joined by her husband in the case. "Nothing in this act shall interfere with or affect any marriage settlement."

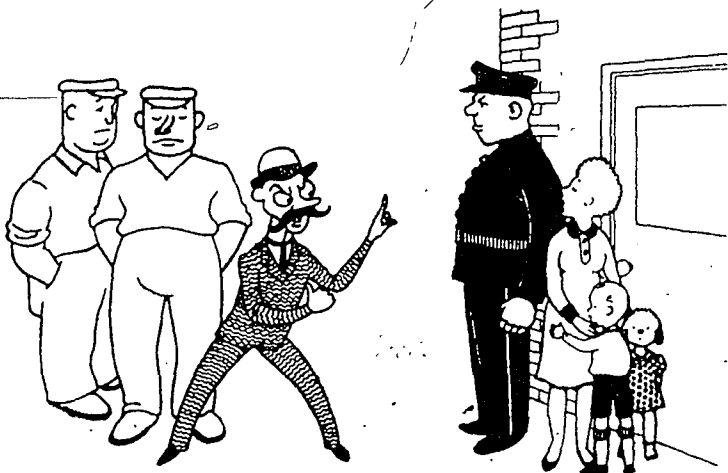
Rights of Widows and Children

Property rights of widows and children are covered by The Intestate Succession Act. This provides that if a man dies leaving no will, but leaving a widow, his whole estate shall go to his widow. If he leaves a widow and one child, one-half of his estate shall go to his widow. If he leaves a widow and more than one child one-third shall go to the widow. The remainder in each case shall be distributed amongst his children. If a wife has left her husband and is living in adultery at the time of his death, she shall take no part in her husband's estate. And vice-versa. The widow's right to any share of her husband's estate is, however, subject to any succession duty that may be due the Crown on the value of the estate over the exemption allowed.

If a husband dies leaving a will which does not make reasonable provision for the maintenance of his dependents, but leaves his property to others, The Dependents' Relief Act safeguards the rights of the widow and children. Under this Act, the Court of King's Bench may make an order charging the estate with payment of an allowance for such maintenance as it deems reasonable and just. Such allowance to a widow, ordered by the Court, shall be not less than the widow would have received had the husband died without leaving a will, and leaving a widow and children—that is, not less than a third of the estate.

Protection of the Homesite and House

Under The Homesteads Act, the wife's signature as well as her husband's is required on any legal document affecting the homestead. The homestead is the house in which the owner lives, or has lived in the past seven years, and the lot, or quarter-section of land on which the house is built. The homestead cannot be transferred, sold, or mortgaged, unless the wife



agrees. To claim the benefit of this provision, the wife must live in Saskatchewan, or have lived therein at any time since the marriage. She may file a caveat in the Land Titles Office, so that anyone concerned with the sale, transfer, or mortgage of the land is made aware of her claim upon it. These rights are continued to her as widow of the owner of the property for as long as it is the homestead. Even if the husband does not leave her the homestead by his will, her rights are similarly protected, and no one can dispose of her home without her consent. This Act protects the home, because it is the centre of family life, and the wife as well as her husband is considered as having an interest in it.

Exemptions From Seizure

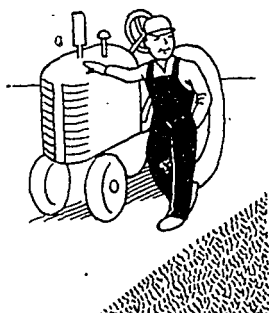
Under the Exemptions Act certain real and personal property is free from seizure for payment of debts. This means that no matter how deeply a person is in debt, certain goods that are essential for living for himself and his family cannot be taken. Exemptions for a debtor and his family include the following:

1. Necessary and ordinary clothing for himself and his family;
2. Household furnishings and dairy utensils to the extent of \$500;
3. Grain, flour, vegetables or meat, prepared or not, sufficient when converted into cash to provide food and fuel for heating purposes for the debtor and his family until the next harvest;

4. One tractor and one motor vehicle, which has been in use for not less than one year and does not exceed \$400 in value, or in lieu of the tractor and vehicle, any six of horses, oxen or mules; six cows, six sheep, four pigs and fifty domestic fowls besides the animals which the debtor may have chosen to keep as necessary food for himself and his family, and food for the livestock for the months of November to April;
5. Harness for six animals, one wagon, one buggy or democrat, one disc harrow or cultivator, one mower, one breaking plough, one gang plough, one set of harrows, one horse rake, one cream separator, one binder, one set of sleighs and one seed drill;
6. Books of a professional man;
7. Tools and necessary implements to the value of \$500 if used in the practice of the debtor's trade or profession;
8. Seed grain to sow all his land under cultivation at the rate of two bushels to the acre; fourteen bushels of potatoes for planting;
9. The homestead, if not more than 160 acres;
10. House and buildings occupied by the debtor and also the lots on which they are situated, to the extent of \$3,000;
11. Dominion Government annuities.

Further Security For Farmers

In 1944 the Exemptions Act was amended making free from seizure, also, as much of the farmer's crop as he needs along with his other means to enable him to pay necessary costs of harvesting, and of his farming operations, and a living allowance for himself and his family until the next harvest.



The Provincial Mediation Board, Saskatchewan Government Insurance Building, Regina, has been empowered to investigate all actions for eviction and to give temporary protection to tenants and their families in deserving cases.

Security For Tenants

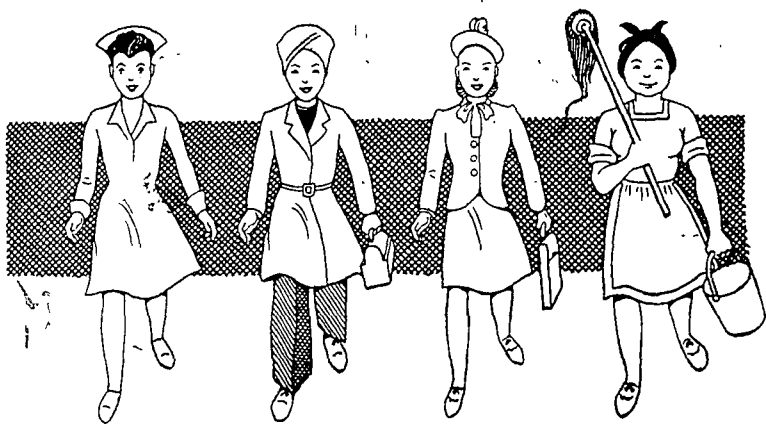
There is similar protection for the family of a tenant who cannot pay the rent. Under the Landlord and Tenant Act the landlord may not hold or sell for default of rent the following goods of the tenant:

1. The beds, bedding and bedsteads, including perambulators and cradles, in ordinary use by the debtor and his family;
2. The necessary and ordinary wearing apparel;
3. One cooking stove with pipes and furnishings, one other heating stove with pipes; two towels, one wash basin, one kitchen table, one teapot, one saucepan, one frying pan, and for each member of the family a chair, a cup and saucer, a plate, knife, fork and spoon;
4. All necessary fuel, meat, fish, flour and vegetables for ordinary consumption of debtor for thirty days;
5. The tools or implements used in the practice of the debtor's trade or occupation, to the value of \$300;
6. One axe, one saw.

LEGISLATION ABOUT POLITICAL AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

(with recent amendments)

- (1) The Saskatchewan Election Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 4; 1945, c. 3 am.
- (2) The City Act, 1946, c. 29 am.; 1948, c. 43 am.
- (3) The Town Act, 1946, c. 30 am.; 1948, c. 44 am.
- (4) The Village Act, 1946, c. 31; 1948, c. 31 am.
- (5) The Rural Municipalities Act, 1946, c. 2; 1948, c. 32 am.
- (6) The Married Women's Property Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 233.
- (7) The Intestate Succession Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 109; 1944, c. 25 am.
- (8) The Dependents' Relief Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 111.
- (9) The Homesteads Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 101.
- (10) The Exemptions Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 80; 1944 (2nd Session), c. 29 am.
- (11) The Landlord and Tenant Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 241.
- (12) The Legislative Assembly Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 3 am; 1948, c. 3 am.



EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS AND SAFEGUARDS

Admittance of Women to the Professions

Men and women are now, generally speaking, admitted to the professions on an equal basis. This does not apply to the ministry of certain religious denominations. However, the various professions make their own regulations about admission to membership. These regulations are usually made under the authority of the general Act passed by the Government for each particular profession.

Labour Laws

Certain labour laws are of general importance to all workers. They affect women as employees. They have also a particular importance to women because wives and homes are protected to the extent that the bread-winners' wages are maintained at an adequate level.

The Minimum Wage Board, set up by authority of The Minimum Wage Act, has issued regulations relating to hours of work and minimum wages of workers in certain employments. The rates and hours set under the minimum wage orders apply equally and without distinction to men and women.

The Hours of Work Act, 1947, provides for an 8-hour day and a 44-hour week without reduction in take-home pay. It applies

to all employees in cities and to employees in factories; stores and offices elsewhere in the province.

The Industrial Standards Act goes farther than The Minimum Wage Act by providing for agreements setting out the wages and conditions of employment.

It provides machinery whereby wages and hours that are more favorable can be established, and made legally binding by agreement of a majority of employers and employees in the whole industry. This protects employers who are willing to agree to more favorable wages from unfavourable competition from other employers who might otherwise exploit their labour, and be able to undersell.

The Trade Union Act, 1944, protects the right of labour to organize. It has facilitated the growth of democratic trade unions in the province, and greatly increased the number of employees covered by collective bargaining.

The Workmen's Compensation (Accident Fund) Act has been greatly improved. It provides to Saskatchewan workers the highest compensation of any province in Canada. Widows' pensions have been raised from \$40 to \$50 per month and orphans' pensions to \$25 per month. Under certain conditions, a common law wife is entitled to the benefits of the Act.

Protection From Exploitation

Various Minimum Wage Orders provide that no child under 16 years shall be employed in any hotel or restaurant, or place of amusement.

They provide that no woman employed in any hotel or restaurant shall be required to arrive at work or leave between the hours of 12:30 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Protection From Exploitation in Mines and Factories

The Coal Mines' Safety and Welfare Act states that no boy or girl under 16 years of age, and no woman of any age shall be allowed to work in a coal mine. Regulations made by Order-in-Council in 1944, under the Mines Regulation Act, prohibit the

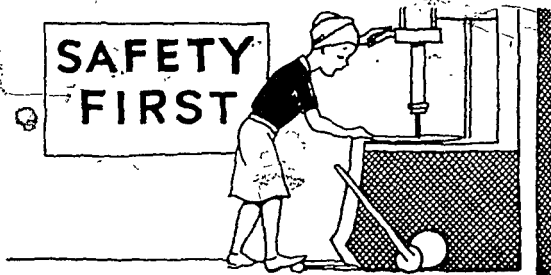
employment of boys under 16 in mines or metallurgical works. They also prohibit the employment of boys below ground in mines and prohibit the employment of girls in or about mines except in a technical, clerical or domestic capacity.

The Factories Act provides that no child under 16 years of age shall be employed in a factory. No boy under 18, nor women of any age shall be employed in a factory if his or her health is likely to be permanently injured thereby.

Safety in the Factory

Besides the general regulations governing safety and sanitation for all workers in a factory, certain regulations make specific provisions about the conditions of work for women and

youths. No young girl or woman shall be required to clean or oil machinery in motion. Women in factories must do their hair in such a way that it will not get caught in machines.



No youth, or woman of any age, is allowed to work more than 48 hours in one week, and not later than half-past six p.m. unless a special permit in writing has been obtained from a factory inspector.

At least one hour at noon of each day must be given any youth, girl, or woman for meals.

Parents allowing any boy or girl under 18 years of age to work in a factory in a manner prohibited by this Act are liable to a penalty not exceeding \$50.

Child Performers Licensed

The Child Welfare Act provides that a special license is necessary before any child under 16 years may be employed in any public entertainment or performance for profit. Proper supervision must be made for the welfare of the child.

Municipal legislation authorizes city and town councils to pass regulations for licensing and supervising the employment of children as express or telegraph messengers, shoe shine boys, newsboys, or sellers of magazines and small wares.

Right to Holidays

The One Day's Rest in Seven Act provides that every employee with certain exceptions shall have one day's rest in seven. In addition, a weekly half-holiday is general throughout the province in most cities and towns by virtue of municipal by-laws and the Weekly Half-Holiday Act.

The Annual Holidays Act, passed in 1944, but held up until July, 1946, by federal wartime legislation, is now in effect. The Act, applying to all employees in Saskatchewan except farm labourers, provides two weeks' vacation with pay after each year of employment.

Under Minimum Wage Orders, it is provided that an employee who does not work on any of the eight specified public holidays must receive full pay at his regular rate for such holidays. If he is required to work on any such holiday, he must receive time and one-half in addition to his regular rate.

Apprenticeship Training

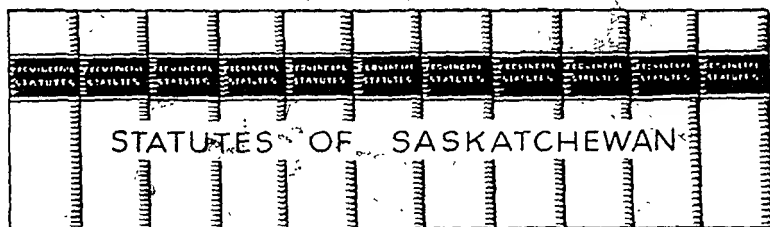
To avoid the exploitation of young tradesmen and to raise the standards of the various trades, The Apprenticeship Act, 1944, provides that every plan for apprenticeship shall have: A written contract with agreed scale of wages; a definite period of apprenticeship of at least 4,000 hours; a definite program of practical experience and instruction in related technical subjects and periodic tests and a final examination.

LEGISLATION ABOUT LABOUR

(with recent amendments)

- (1) Professions and Occupations. See under Act for each particular profession.
- (2) The Minimum Wage Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 310; 1944 (Second Session), c. 67 am.; 1945, c. 107 am. (See also Minimum Wage Orders.)

- (3) The Industrial Standards Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 305; 1944 (Second Session), c. 62 am.
- (4) The Trade Union Act, 1944 (Second Session), c. 69; 1945, c. 108 am.; 1946, c. 98 am.
- (5) The Workmen's Compensation (Accident Fund) Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 303; 1945, c. 104 am.; 1946, c. 97 am.; 1948, c. 303 am.
- (6) The Coalminers' Safety and Welfare Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 270.
- (7) The Factories Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 267; 1946, c. 86 am.
- (8) The Child Welfare Act, 1946, c. 91; 1948, c. 91 am.
- (9) The One Day's Rest in Seven Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 306; 1944 (Second Session), c. 63 am.; 1945, c. 106 am.
- (10) The Weekly Half-Holiday Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 307; 1944 (Second Session), c. 64 am.
- (11) The Annual Holidays Act, 1944 (Second Session), c. 65.
- (12) The Apprenticeship Act, 1944, c. 81; 1944 (Second Session), c. 54 am.; 1948, c. 81 am.
- (13) The Hours of Work Act, 1947, c. 103 am.; 1948, c. 109 am.





MARRIAGE

A marriage license must be obtained, or banns published before a marriage can be solemnized in Saskatchewan.

Application for a marriage license must be made personally by both the applicants at least seven days before the license may be issued.

The marriage ceremony must take place within three months after the date of issue of the license, or after the date of the last publication of the banns.

Medical Examination Necessary

It is necessary for each party to an intended marriage in Saskatchewan to have a medical examination, within thirty days immediately preceding the solemnization of the marriage. It must include a blood test for syphilis. A health certificate covering this examination must show that the applicant is free from syphilis in a communicable state, and from mental disease. A marriage ceremony is forbidden without the production of this certificate.

A marriage may not be solemnized nor a license issued if either of the parties is known to be under the influence of liquor.

In case either of the parties does not understand the language in which the ceremony is to be performed an independent interpreter must be employed.

Marriage of Minors

A marriage license may not, usually, be issued, to any persons under the age of fifteen.

Before a marriage license is issued to any minor, under the age of 21 years, he or she must obtain the consent of parent or guardian.

A statement of consent must be signed by both parents of the minor if both are living and not legally separated, or by the surviving parent if one of them is dead.

If the parents are legally separated, consent must be given by the parent having legal custody of the minor, or by the legal guardian.

If case both parents are dead, consent must be given by the legal or acknowledged guardian who has brought up or supported the minor for three years directly preceding the intended marriage.

If the minor is a ward of the Minister of Social Welfare, consent must be given by the Director of the Child Welfare Branch of the Department of Social Welfare.

Exemptions to Consent Laws

Certain exceptions to consent for the marriage of minors are provided. Consent is not required if the party is 18 years of age and fills out a declaration form provided in the act. This declaration must show:

- (a) that the father and mother of the declarant are dead; or that one parent is dead and one in a mental institution and no guardian exists; or
- (b) that a parent whose consent is required is not a resident of Saskatchewan, and is not in Saskatchewan at the date of the statutory declaration, and that the declarant is and has been a resident of Saskatchewan for the preceding 12 months; or
- (c) that the declarant has for the three preceding months been living apart from his parents or guardians without having received financial aid from them; and

- (d) that the minor is not a ward of the Minister of Social Welfare.

A person under the age of 21 who is unable to obtain the required consent, may apply to a judge of the Court of King's Bench, or of a District Court, and the judge may, in his discretion, grant an order dispensing with such consent.

The provision for consent does not apply to widows, widowers, or people whose marriage has been dissolved.

Certificates of Death or Divorce

If an applicant for a marriage license has been previously married, a certificate of the death of the former husband or wife or a certificate of the dissolution or annulment of the former marriage must be furnished to the issuer of the license, or to the clergyman proclaiming the banns.

In certain exceptional cases, a Presumption of Death may be furnished instead of a death certificate. In 1944 an amendment to The Marriage Act provided that in cases where a husband or wife disappeared, an applicant who wishes to re-marry may petition the Court of King's Bench to have it presumed that the other party is dead. There must be evidence to show that for a period of seven years or upward the other party to the marriage has been continually absent from the petitioner, who has made inquiries and has no reason to believe that the other party has been living within that time. The court, if satisfied with the evidence, may make a declaration of presumption of death.

Annulment of Illegal Marriages

Where a form of marriage is gone through between persons either of whom is under 21, without the consent required by The Marriage Act, the Court of King's Bench shall have the power to adjudge the marriage invalid and not entered into, if such persons have not lived together as man and wife.

The Marriage Act is administered by the Vital Statistics Division of the Department of Health.

Divorce

Divorce is covered by a federal act and the legal grounds for divorce are outlined by it.

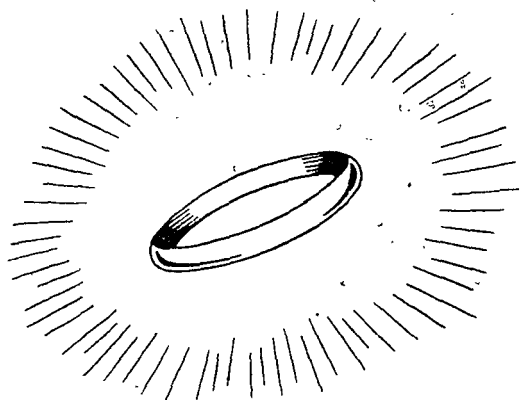
Legitimation

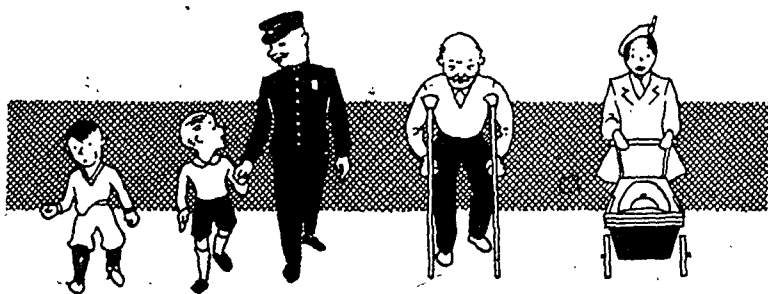
If the parents of any child born out of lawful wedlock should intermarry, under The Legitimation Act the child shall for all purposes be deemed to be legitimate from the time of birth.

An amendment to The Change of Name Act made in 1946, provides that a mother may apply for a change in the surname of her unmarried infant children, not being her husband's children, so that their surname shall be her name by marriage. (See Page 42.)

LEGISLATION ABOUT MARRIAGE (with recent amendments)

- (1) The Marriage Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 231; 1944, c. 70 am.; 1945, c. 85 am.; 1946, c. 69 am.; 1948, c. 231 am.
- (2) The Legitimation Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 236.
- (3) The Change of Name Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 323; 1946, c. 104 am.; 1948, c. 113 am.





SOCIAL WELFARE

Guardianship of Infants

The Infants' Act provides for the guardianship of children, under various circumstances.

The father and mother are to be the joint guardians of their children, unless it is ordered otherwise by a court.

If the parents are not living together, or if they are divorced or legally separated, they may enter into a legal agreement as to which parent shall take care of their infant children. If the parents cannot agree, either may apply to the court for an order.

Mother Has Custody

In the absence of a written agreement or of an order to the contrary, the mother has the right to take care of her children, until they reach the age of fourteen.

Either parent may appoint by deed or in a will, one or more persons to be guardian of their child after the death of such parent. If guardians are appointed by both parents they will act jointly, and if unable to agree upon a question affecting the welfare of the child any of them may apply to the court for its direction.

Appointment of a New Guardian

If a child, or anyone on his behalf, proves to the court that he has no parent or guardian, or that such a parent or guardian

is not a fit and proper person to have the infant, the Court of King's Bench may appoint a new guardian.

Official Guardian

An Official Guardian of infants has been appointed by the province to look after the legal interest of every child in every estate. On every application for probate of a will or administration of an estate where a child is interested, the Official Guardian must be notified and full particulars of the estate and of the beneficiaries, and the name, address and age of any child interested must be furnished to him.

Welfare of Children

The Child Welfare Act, 1946, is a complete consolidation of former legislation regarding the welfare of children. It is divided into four parts: 1. Protection of children; 2. Treatment of juvenile offenders; 3. Adoption of children; 4. Provisions for children of unmarried parents.

1. Protection of Children

Part I of The Child Welfare Act provides for protection of children from cruelty, and for the control and care of neglected children.

Children's Aid Societies

The Act provides that Children's Aid Societies may be set up under the Department for the care of neglected children.



Advisory committees may be set up in communities where no Children's Aid Societies exist to advise the Director of Child Welfare on local matters in connection with the welfare of children.

A new provision makes all wards of Children's Aid Societies the wards of the Minister of Social Welfare. This centralizes policy and responsibility, and gives all wards the protection of one provincial authority.

Action Taken to Protect a Neglected Child

The Act gives power to the Department of Social Welfare, to local superintendents of Children's Aid Societies, and to others such as constables to take a child away from a bad environment to a place of safety. A "child" for the purposes of this Act is a girl or boy under sixteen years of age. A child is considered as living in a bad environment if his home, by reason of neglect, cruelty or depravity on the part of parents or guardian is an unfit or improper place for him, if he is under improper parental control, if he has been habitually absent from school without his parents making reasonable effort to secure him training, if he is found begging in the street, or sleeping in other than proper housing accommodation, or associating with a thief, drunkard, vagrant, prostitute or a dissolute or vicious person.

A child who has been found under such circumstances must be brought before a judge for examination within three weeks following the date of his apprehension, or be returned to his parents.



Notice of the judge's hearing will be given the parents at least five days before the sitting.

The judge may order that a child may be returned home under supervision, or that temporary, or permanent custody of the child be given to the Minister of Social Welfare. Permanent custody means that the Director of Child Welfare has complete parental responsibility until the child is 21.

The parents, guardian, or Director of the Child Welfare Branch representing the child's interest may appeal from the judge's decision.

Care of a Ward

When the Minister of the Department of Social Welfare has been given custody of a child, he may place him in a supervised institution or foster home.

A Roman Catholic child must be placed in a Roman Catholic home, and a Protestant child in a Protestant home. The child is usually to be considered to have the religion of his father unless he has been brought up under another religion, and unless he has been born out of wedlock, in which case he is considered as having the religion of his mother.

It is a legal offence for parents or any others to interfere with a ward of the Minister, or to take him away from a foster home or institution in which he has been placed by the Child Welfare Branch.

Supervision of Children's Homes

Every foster home, and every institution dealing with or caring for children is inspected.

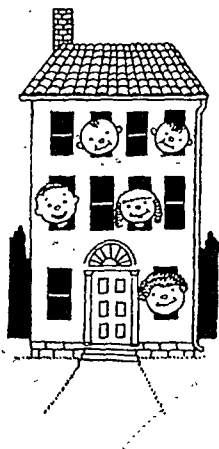
Every such institution must make annual reports. They must report promptly details of the admittance of any child, and any departures so that no child is lost track of, and no child can be disposed of in any way that would be to its detriment.

Any person in a city or town, and the person in charge of any orphanage receiving or keeping a child for hire must notify the Director within one week.

Orphanages and rescue homes may be inspected, and infant homes and rescue homes must be licensed by the Department of Social Welfare subject to the provisions of the Public Health Act.

They are not allowed to transfer any child under seven years without the consent of the Director of Child Welfare. Parents can transfer children under seven years to such institutions only with the consent of the Minister.

No proprietor of such premises shall advertise that he will adopt children or hold out any inducement, such as promise of money, to parents to part with their offspring. Newspapers and magazines receiving advertisements dealing with adoption, boarding out or care of a child shall send the name, address and occupation of the advertiser and copy of the advertisement to the Director of Child Welfare so that any such home may be inspected to ascertain whether it is a proper place for a child.



Secrecy

No documents or files on the personal history of the child shall be made available to anyone other than the Department of

Social Welfare or Children's Aid Society recognized by the Minister.

No social worker shall be obliged to give in court as evidence any statement made to him in confidence in the course of his duties.

These two measures protect the privacy and confidence of the children and of other persons involved, and make it easier for a social worker to obtain information needed to protect the child.

Penalties for Ill-Treatment of Children

Persons who cause children to beg, perform or, if under thirteen years, be employed between ten o'clock in the evening of one day and six o'clock in the morning of the following day are liable to a fine of \$100.

2. Treatment of Juvenile Offenders

Part II of The Child Welfare Act deals with juvenile offenders. It provides that children must not be confined in a lock-up or police cell used for persons charged with crime.

Under The Juvenile Delinquents Act (Federal), which is linked with this Part, a delinquent child must be tried in a closed court. He is to be dealt with as one requiring help, guidance and proper supervision. Provision is made for a Chief Probation Officer and every alleged delinquency must be reported to him. Upon receiving such notice he shall inquire into the parentage, and surroundings of the child, and the circumstances of the case. No child shall be prosecuted for any offence except a criminal one without the written opinion of the Chief Probation Officer as to whether or not it is in the best interests of the child that he should be brought before the court or otherwise dealt with.

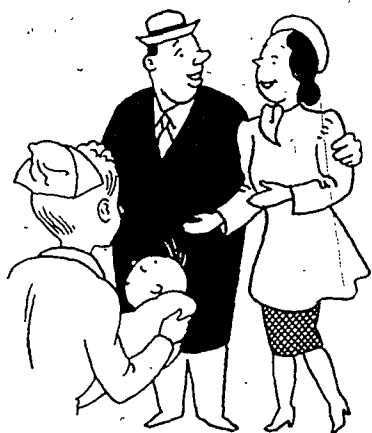


Other regulations of the provincial Act provide for parole, and detention homes.

3. Adoption of Children

In Part III of the Act details of adoption procedure are outlined, and the legal effects of adoption are defined.

Application for the adoption of a child must be made to the Director of Child Welfare. The Director has inquiries made as to the suitability of the applicant, and the history of the child. Then he may enter into a contract with the applicant that the child shall be maintained in the home of an applicant for a probationary period of not less than a year, before the adoption may become legal.



Adoptions in which money is paid for the child are illegal.

A child is placed in an adopted home of his own religion and every effort is made to assure that the placement is suitable to his background.

Consent for adoption must be obtained from the parents or guardian of the child, or from the mother if the child has been born out of wedlock, and from the Director of Child Welfare, and consent in writing must be obtained from the child himself, if he is twelve years of age or over.

4. Children of Unmarried Parents

The last part of The Child Welfare Act deals with the children of unmarried parents. The Act provides legal means for establishing who is the father of such a child and for making it his responsibility to pay for the maintenance of the child. These legal means are called Filiation Proceedings.

(See also Legitimation, Page 17, and Change of Name, Page 42.)

Filiation proceedings may be instituted against an alleged father even if he is out of the province. If he fails to appear in court upon proof of a summons upon him, the judge may declare him to be the legal father, and he would thus become

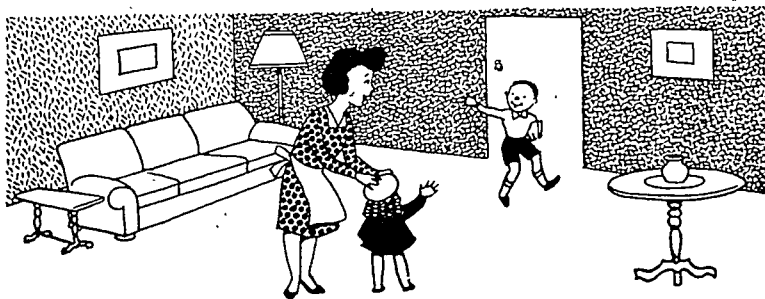
liable to a filiation order, including maintenance and costs. Appeal by either party is permitted.

The Registrar General of Vital Statistics on receiving notice of the birth of a child to a single woman must report to the Director of Child Welfare. The Director has an investigation made, to offer help and to care for the interests of the child. Institutions where such a child is born must also supply the Director with information concerning the birth of the child.

A single woman who is the mother of a child may apply to the Director of Child Welfare for advice, and to the Social Welfare Board for financial assistance. If the Board considers there is need, and if the mother is unable to secure sufficient maintenance from the father, it may authorize the payment of a monthly allowance to her in the form of a Mother's Allowance provided the child is living with her.

Maintenance of Wives and Children

A husband is legally bound to support his wife and children, and may be ordered to do so by a court. Similarly a son or daughter is legally bound to support a dependent parent.

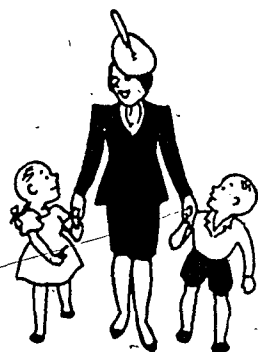


In the past orders for maintenance of wives, children and parents were not enforceable in other provinces or in other parts of the British Commonwealth. Now reciprocal enforcement of maintenance orders is provided under The Maintenance Orders Act, 1946. This Act makes such orders enforceable outside Saskatchewan and vice-versa when other countries and other provinces pass similar reciprocal legislation.

To further ensure payment of maintenance orders The Attachment of Debts Act was recently amended to deprive a husband of the ordinary exemption of \$100 per month when the garnishee claim is based on a separation agreement or an order for alimony.

Mothers' Allowances Paid

Regulations created under the Social Aid Act provide that in certain cases of need Mother's Allowances may be paid by the Department of Social Welfare. This gives partial protection to the family in the event that the bread winner dies without leaving sufficient income or is otherwise prevented from supporting his dependents. Allowances are paid for each child, the mother and the father in the case of his illness. This enables a mother to care for her children at home under her own supervision, when she might otherwise have to break up the home and have the children cared for elsewhere. When the father develops tuberculosis or cancer, or becomes mentally ill, an allowance for as long as is necessary may be paid to the family. In addition, hospitalization for any illness and care and treatment for tuberculosis, cancer and mental illness are paid for by the province. And under the Health Services Act, those receiving Mother's Allowances and their dependents receive hospital and dental services at the expense of the province.



Sale of Liquor to Minors

The sale of liquor to a person under 21 years is forbidden under The Liquor Act. No person under 21 years shall enter or be allowed on the premises of a licensed beer parlor, or act in any way in connection with the sale or handling or serving of beer, in, on, or about licensed premises.

Minors and Motor Vehicles

No person under 16 years is allowed to drive a motor vehicle, or to hold an operator's license, and no person under 18 years shall be granted a chauffeur's license unless he proves by special examination test that he is skilled and capable, and that he is over the age of 16 years.

Children out at Night

Municipal councils are authorized under several Acts to pass bylaws regulating the time after which children shall not be

in a public place, or on the streets at night without proper guardianship.

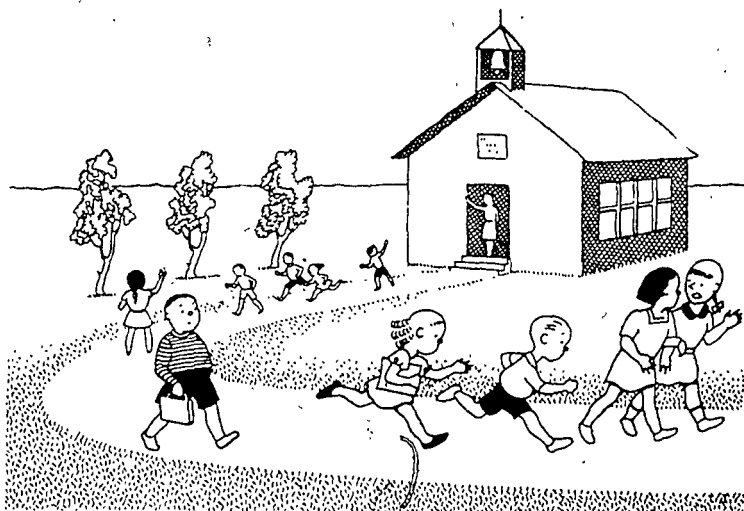
Children Attending Theatres

A child under the age of 14 years is not allowed to attend any moving picture exhibition after the hour of eight o'clock in the evening, unless he is accompanied by a parent or other responsible person. This provision is made in The Theatres and Cinematographs Act.

Saskatchewan censors are required under this Act to classify films as "General" (films suitable for children and for adults), and "Adult" (films suitable for adults and of no interest to children).

LEGISLATION ABOUT SOCIAL WELFARE (with recent amendments)

- (1) The Infants' Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 235.
- (2) The Child Welfare Act, 1946, c. 91.
- (3) The Deserted Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 234; 1945, c. 86 am.; 1946, c. 71 am.
- (4) The Parents' Maintenance Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 237; 1946, c. 71 am.
- (5) The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1946, c. 22.
- (6) The Attachment of Debts Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 85; 1945, c. 26 am.; 1946, c. 23 am.
- (7) The Social Aid Act, 1944 (Second Session); c. 61; 1945, c. 101 am.; 1946, c. 92 am.
- (8) See also legislation for Health.
- (9) The Liquor Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 3279; 1945, c. 102 am.; 1945, c. 115, aff.; 1946, c. 93 am.
- (10) The Vehicles Act, 1945, c. 98; 1946, c. 89 am.
- (11) Re Children Out at Night, see The City Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 126; The Town Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 127; The Village Act, R.S.S. 1946, c. 31.
- (12) The Theatres and Cinematographs Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 274.



EDUCATION

Some of the most important legislation affecting children, and the future citizens of Saskatchewan, is that dealing with education.

The School Act provides machinery for the setting up of school districts, the election of school boards, the building of school houses, the engaging of teachers, and the general management of the school district.

It outlines the duties of the Minister as head of the Department of Education. He is responsible for the course of study, the supervision and certification of teachers, school grants and many other matters touching the interests of all schools.

It governs secondary education in most villages and rural areas.

The Secondary Education Act governs education in most high schools and colleges. It covers general high school work, commercial, vocational, technical, and industrial work, matriculation and Normal School entrance.

Both these Acts give power to the local school board to decide if they wish, that the school day shall be opened by reading and reciting without comment, the Lord's Prayer, or by Bible reading.

Attendance

The School Act maintains that Every resident person between the ages of 6 and 21 has the right to attend school and receive instruction appropriate to his or her grade. All instruction in the elementary grades is free, the cost being met by local taxation and by grants from the provincial government.

The School Attendance Act states that it is the duty of parents and guardians to send children between the ages of 7 years and 15 years to school.

The education of blind and deaf persons is covered by a separate act, and a school for the deaf is maintained by the government in Saskatoon.

Better Education Opportunities

The purpose of recent legislation sponsored by the Department of Education is to improve the educational standards of Saskatchewan schools, to increase the educational opportunities for Saskatchewan children, and to raise the dignity of the teaching profession.

Getting the Best Teachers

In 1944 the present administration amended The School Act to raise the minimum salary of teachers to \$1,200 for holders of permanent certificates and \$1,000 for all others. The previous minimum was \$700. Now Saskatchewan has the highest minimum wage for teachers in all Canada.

Other legislation deals with teachers' superannuation, and fees.

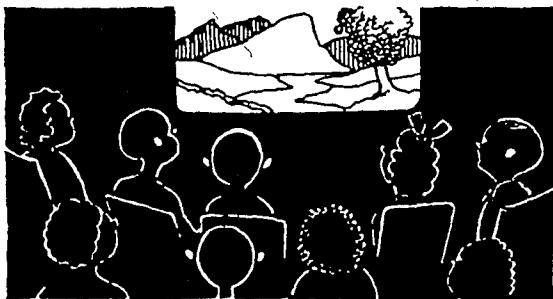
By thus giving teachers more financial security, and salaries more in line with those they could obtain in other professions, it is possible to attract more capable and better qualified persons into teaching, and to keep teachers with a few years' valuable experience from leaving for other fields of work. It is also possible to demand higher standards in training and more efficiency in the performance of their duties.

Larger School Units

One of the most important educational reforms of the present administration is the establishment of the larger school

unit, under The Larger School Unit Act, 1944. It is hoped that sixty units will eventually replace the previous 5,000 rural school districts in the province. By June, 1946, a total of 45 larger units had been established.

The Larger School Unit has made possible a more efficient administration and the expansion of services. It has made possible extensive programs of building and repair of schools. It facilitates the establishment of composite high schools. There have been substantial savings in the purchase of school supplies



in bulk. Dormitories for out-of-town students have been built. The unit board appoints and pays teachers and sets up a salary schedule for the teachers of the unit. It may

engage helping teachers, and audio-visual teachers to travel from one school in the unit to another, and teachers of special subjects. It may employ a doctor, dentist, and nurses. Under the Larger Unit system health, and visual aid, and library services have been expanded.

Free Text Books

The Free Text Book Act authorizes public school boards to issue free text books and school supplies if the board desires. The Act also provides that the Minister of Education has the power to authorize payment for any texts or other books prescribed on the school courses. Free readers in 1946, for all schools in the province, and authorized texts for grades one to eight have been provided. This is another step toward ensuring that none shall be handicapped in securing an education because of the financial position of his family.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance to the children of deceased or disabled veterans is provided for by a special act.

Scholarships and loans for University courses, and for nurses,

are made possible by Dominion-Provincial arrangement on a 50-50 basis. The province provides, as well, scholarships for Normal school students.

Other legislation deals with financial grants to schools, with the University of Saskatchewan, with the correspondence schools, the government book bureau, and libraries.

Organizing Libraries

Under The Public Libraries Act, the provincial government will pay up to \$200 a year for the purchase of books and newspapers to public libraries in the province. An amendment enacted in 1946 provides for the extension of library facilities to areas where none exist. Groups of persons in such areas may provide library services to the people in the community, and be eligible to receive the government grant for books of one dollar for every dollar spent by them.

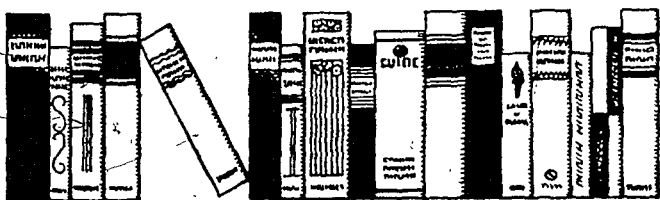
The Minister of Education acts as Minister of three rural library services: Regional Libraries, Public Information Library, and Travelling Library. These are administered by the Provincial Librarian, Legislative Building, Regina.

The Regional Libraries Act, 1946, provides that any municipality may associate with any other municipality to establish and operate a regional public library.

Non-fiction reading material for adults in rural areas is provided by the provincial Public Information Library. It offers free services to all Saskatchewan. Books are sent post-paid, may be kept for 30 days, and returned postage free to the library.

The Travelling Libraries, operated in conjunction with the Public Information Library, will send 50 to 60 books to any rural district committee for a period of nine months.

The Mechanics' and Literary Institutes Act provides that mechanics' and literary institutes may be organized for the encouragement of mechanics, manufactures, agriculture and the arts. It also provides for grants up to \$50 annually (to any institute) for books in the building up of its library.



Vocational Education

The Vocational Education Act provides for the establishment of day schools in which adolescents may receive training in industrial pursuits, and of evening classes in which adolescents and adults may receive practical and theoretical instruction in such pursuits as they are engaged in during the day.

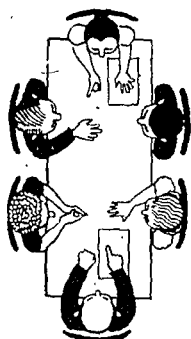
LEGISLATION ABOUT EDUCATION (with recent amendments)

- (1) The School Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 165; 1944 (Second Session), c. 40 am.; 1945, c. 66 am.; 1948, c. 165 am.
- (2) The Secondary Education Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 164; 1945, c. 65 am.; 1948, c. 164 am.
- (3) The School Attendance Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 167.
- (4) The Education of Blind and Deaf Children Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 173; 1944 (Second Session), c. 42 am.
- (5) The Teachers' Superannuation Act, 1942, c. 52; 1945, c. 71 am.; 1946, c. 55 am.; 1948, c. 52 am.
- (6) The Teachers' Federation Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 176; 1944 (Second Session), c. 43 am.; 1948, c. 176 am.
- (7) The Larger School Units Act, 1944 (Second Session), c. 41; 1945 c. 67 am.; 1946, c. 52 am.; 1948, c. 41 am.
- (8) The Free Text Book Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 170.
- (9) The Education of Soldiers' Dependent Children Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 172; 1945, c. 70 am.
- (10) The School Grants Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 169; 1945, c. 69 am.; 1946, c. 54 am.; 1948, c. 169 am.
- (11) The University Act, 1946, c. 51; 1948, c. 51 am.
- (12) The Public Libraries Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 135; 1946, c. 34 am.
- (13) The Regional Libraries Act, 1946, c. 35.
- (14) The Mechanics' and Literary Institutes Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 134.
- (15) The Vocational Education Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 171.



HEALTH

We, in Saskatchewan, have been among the first to learn the need for human contribution to achieve a higher level of health for all. In many different ways we have planned and worked together to assure the good health of our families—our children and their mothers.



Through our own community projects, such as municipal doctor and medical insurance schemes and union hospitals, we have co-operated with one another to strengthen our local health and medical resources. But for an effective overall health system, many different elements must be organized. This is the job of our provincial government.

The needs and problems of health in the province are the responsibility of the Department of Public Health and the Health Services Planning Commission, both operating under the Minister of Public Health.

The Department of Public Health, directed by the Deputy Minister, is responsible for sanitation services, communicable disease control, health education, dental health services, public health nursing services, mental hygiene and mental hospitals, work of the Cancer Commission, the Air Ambulance Service, and health services in the far north, as well as supervising the development of public health services in the health regions.

The Health Services Planning Commission, directed by the Chairman of the Commission, is responsible for the administration of the Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan, medical care for the needy, supervision of municipal, regional and voluntary health insurance plans, development of a hospital system for the province, and provincial subsidies for hospital construction.

These two integrated agencies are together fashioning the most advanced and the most complete system of health services in Canada.

Expanded Services

The Department of Public Health is established under the Department of Public-Health Act, and the powers of the Minister are defined under the Public Health Act. The Department is continually expanding its services and during the past four years seven new divisions have been added, making a total of 13 divisions providing different public health services.

Lessons in Health

A wider understanding of the factors of good health is necessary if we are to care for our health intelligently. This is the work of the Division of Health Education which was formed in 1944. The Division works through community organizations and the educational system to promote interest in and discussion of health needs and problems. Literature, posters, films and radio are used in the work. The Division is also interested in the development of health forums in which all citizens may take part.

Food for Health

Integrated with the health education program is the work of the Nutrition Division. Four years ago a provincial nutritionist was added to the Department and a survey of nutritional needs and deficiencies in the diet of school children was made. The Division carries on an education campaign to encourage the provision of adequate well-balanced school lunches (such as are now frequently provided by school unit boards).

Public Health Nursing

The staff of this division has been greatly expanded during the past four years and its services have been increased. Public Health nurses carry on a generalized health program in the community. They conduct health centres and well-baby clinics. They address meetings of home-makers and parent-teachers associations and hold home nursing classes. They give advice on pre-natal

and post-natal care. In addition to making regular visits to homes, they supervise health work in the schools and meet with teachers to discuss the health problems of their pupils.

Distribution of Sera and Vaccines

Through the Division of Communicable Disease the Department of Public Health furnishes free of charge to doctors and hospitals, upon application, the various vaccines and sera used in protection against or treatment of various communicable diseases, including: smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, whooping cough and typhoid.

Silver nitrate is provided free for the treatment of the eyes of every child at birth as a protection against blindness, caused by infection. Insulin is provided free for diabetics who are unable to purchase it.

Free Laboratory Service

The department does routine public health work in bacteriology, serology, chemistry and pathology, and provides diagnostic laboratory services for physicians. Through the provincial laboratory it also makes regular tests of food and water and of all pasteurized milk and butter to ensure high sanitary standards and quality. A consulting service to dairies is provided.

Free Treatment of Mental Illness

The Division of Mental Services administers the Mental Hygiene Act, and manages the provincial mental institutions. It arranges for the transportation and admission of patients to the mental hospitals and the psychopathic ward in Regina. The care and maintenance of patients in provincial institutions is at the expense of the province; and their families in cases of need, may be supported by a Mother's Allowance. (See page 26.)

A community mental hygiene program is also administered by the Division. A full-time mental health clinic was opened in Regina in 1947, and part-time clinics were established in Weyburn, Moose Jaw and North Battleford. Special short courses in preventive psychiatry are being given to public health nurses, social workers and school teachers in order that they may take mental hygiene into the community. In Weyburn, an arrangement between local and provincial health and education authorities has

resulted in the employment of a full-time teacher psychologist to undertake a mental health program among school children.

This Division also maintains a special school for mental defectives in the province.

Free V.D. Treatment

Emphasis of the Venereal Disease Control Division is on education and the protection of the family.

The Venereal Disease Prevention Act makes it the duty of every person infected with V.D. to consult a physician within three days of learning of or suspecting such an infection, to attend a clinic for treatment and to take treatment for as long as it is considered necessary. An order may be made to compel such examination and treatment.

Venereal disease clinics are located in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Moose Jaw. The clinics provide free examination and treatment of syphilis and gonorrhea. The Department of Public Health supplies drugs, including penicillin, for the treatment of V.D. to private physicians in the province.

Free Cancer Treatment

The Cancer Commission, under authority of The Cancer Control Act, has established consultative, diagnostic and treatment clinics for cancer at Regina and Saskatoon. The cancer service, including surgery, at either clinic, is given at the expense of the province.

Facilities and services of the new cancer clinic in Regina are equal to those found anywhere in North America.

Free Poliomyelitis Treatment

A clinic for the treatment of Poliomyelitis cases has been in operation at Saskatoon for several years. Arrangements have been made to develop additional clinics in the south of the province if the need arises. Treatment is at the expense of the province.



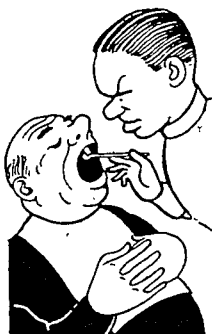
Free T.B. Treatment

The Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals Act provides for free care and treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis. Free diagnostic and treatment services are available in three sanatoria and a number of clinics operated by the Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League and financed by government grants and a per capita charge on municipalities. Surveys to find undetected cases and to ensure early treatment are carried on throughout the province, areas where incidence is highest being given priority. They are financed by voluntary subscriptions and gifts such as those made by Christmas seals purchases.

The League is rapidly approaching its goal of having every person in the province X-rayed.

Dental Health

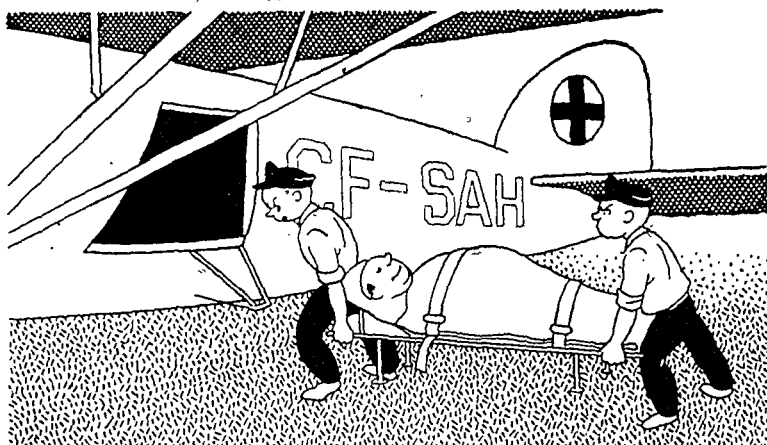
A Dental Health Division was added to the Department in 1948. The new Division will work in co-operation with the Saskatchewan College of Dental Surgeons in developing preventive dentistry and strengthening all dental services in the province. One of its first jobs will be to conduct a survey of towns requiring and able to support dentists.



Air Ambulance Service

The Department inaugurated an Air Ambulance Service in 1946 for emergency illness and accident victims for whom other transportation is either unavailable or unsatisfactory. During the past two years it has carried more than 1,000 patients, and flown a total of 280,000 air miles. On occasions doctors have been flown out to isolated patients and many times blood plasma, serums and other medical supplies have been carried to urgent cases. No matter who the passenger, or how long the trip in Saskatchewan, the charge is the same for all—\$25. A charge of 50 cents per mile is made for flights beyond the provincial boundaries.

In two years, the service has grown from one aircraft and three crew members, to four aircraft and fifteen crew members.



Health Regions



The Health Services Act provides machinery for the setting up of Health Regions. Six have already been organized in the province.

The primary task of the Health Region is the provision of public health services. Public health, or preventive services, are those that raise the standard of home and community health, and prevent illness. The six Health Regions now in operation are covered by such services. The public health staff in the Region is appointed by the provincial Department of Public Health, and the local board acts in an advisory capacity.

The Health Region Board may also plan for improving hospital, diagnostic and therapeutic services. It may initiate schemes whereby the people of the region may receive medical, surgical, dental, consultant and diagnostic care, on a pre-paid basis. For these services the Health Services Planning Commission acts in an advisory capacity.

Two-thirds of the cost of the preventive services are paid for by the provincial government. To enable the Region to attract the specialist services to make them available to the general prac-

tioners in the region, the provincial government pays one-half the cost of consultant and diagnostic services when these are provided. Grants are also made to help in the provision of medical and hospital facilities.

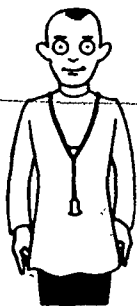
Finances for the Region's share of the costs are raised by a general or by a personal tax on the residents in the districts concerned or by a combination of the two taxes.

Municipal Health Schemes

The Health Services Act contains provision whereby the council of any municipality, urban or rural, may submit a bylaw to its electors to provide medical or surgical services (or any combination thereof) to its residents on a personal or a general tax basis, or combination of the two.

To assist in the provision of adequate medical care for rural areas the provincial government gives a medical grant to any municipality operating a scheme for the provision of such care approved by Health Services Planning Commission. This grant varies in amount according to the per capita assessment of the area, and is contingent on its conformity with certain regulations governing the agreement affected between municipality and physician.

The plan guarantees to the medical practitioner an assured and comfortable income, makes medical care available to every person in the municipality at a reasonable cost, and distributes the burden of the cost of illness. It is the forerunner of the regional health scheme, which covers even a wider area and provides correspondingly increased benefits.



Special Provisions for Certain Groups

Saskatchewan is the first province in Canada to provide free dental, medical, surgical and hospital care, and 80 percent of the cost of necessary drugs, for all old age and blind pensioners, for all those receiving Mother's Allowance and their dependents, and children who are wards of the Minister of Social Welfare. This group includes almost 30,000 persons.

In special needy cases, the province may, under the Social Aid Act, pay maternity grants toward expenses at child-birth.

The care of indigents is the responsibility of the municipality, and it pays the medical fees for its own needy residents. The province pays grants to physicians, dentists, and approved hospitals for the care of needy residents in any part of the province outside of municipalities.

Union Hospital Districts

The Union Hospital Act provides for the joining together of neighboring municipalities to finance the building, operating and maintaining of a hospital to serve the people of the area included in the district. The Union Hospital Board is made up of representatives from each of the municipalities involved.

Hospitalization Benefits

The Saskatchewan Hospitalization Act, which went into effect on January 1, 1947, embodies a plan to make hospital care available to every single resident of the province. All persons who have resided in Saskatchewan for at least six months, except those already protected under special federal or provincial measures, are eligible for benefits under this plan.

Every resident, with the exception of old age and blind pensioners, recipients of Mother's allowance, members of Canada's Armed Forces, D.V.A. students, R.C.M.P., mental-hospital and T.B. patients, inmates of jails and penitentiaries and Treaty Indians, and residents of Saskatchewan's far north who may participate in the Plan voluntarily, are required to pay an annual per capita hospitalization tax. The tax is \$10 for each adult, \$5 for each dependent child under 21 years of age and the maximum payable by any family, no matter how large, is \$30. All taxes thus collected are placed in the Saskatchewan Hospitalization Fund.

The Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan pays to approved hospitals and nursing homes for all services customarily provided in the hospital for bed patients—inside Saskatchewan for as long as medically necessary; outside the province or country for a period not exceeding 60 days during any calendar year and at a maximum daily rate of \$5. Out-of-province benefits may apply to residents away on a visit or, for the rest of the tax year to persons who have moved from Saskatchewan. Further, newborn infants are entitled to benefits (without tax) for the remainder of the tax year for which the mother's tax has been paid. Out-of-province payments for newborns are limited to \$1 per day.

LEGISLATION ABOUT HEALTH

(with recent amendments)

- (1) The Health Services Act, 1946, c. 81; 1948, c. 81 am.
- (2) The Social Aid Act, 1944 (Second Session), c. 61.
- (3) The Union Hospital Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 315; 1945, c.c. 110 and 111 am.; 1946, c. 100 am.; 1948, c. 108 am.
- (4) The Saskatchewan Hospitalization Act, 1946, c. 82.
- (5) The Public Health Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 264; 1944 (Second Session), c. 50 am.; 1945, c. 92 am.; 1946, c. 80 am.; 1948, c. 264 am.
- (6) The Physical Fitness Act, 1944, c. 77; 1948, c. 77 am.
- (7) The Department of Public Health Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 26.
- (8) The Mental Hygiene Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 238; 1944 (Second Session), c. 47 am.; 1945, c. 87; 1948, c. 238 am.
- (9) The Venereal Diseases Prevention Act, 1946, c. 84.
- (10) The Cancer Control Act, 1944, c. 78; 1945, c. 95 am.; 1946, c. 83 am.
- (11) The Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 316; 1948, c. 316 am.

MISCELLANEOUS

Changing Your Name

A person of the full age of 21 years, who is a British subject, may make an application to the Director of Vital Statistics in the Department of Public Health for a change of name under the Change of Name Act.

If the applicant is a married man he may also apply for a change of the given name or names of his wife and any or all of his unmarried children. In the same way a widow, or a widower, may apply for a change of the given name of any or all of her or his unmarried infant children. The consent of children over 14 years of age is required to change their given name or names.

An application by a married man for a change of name of his wife or children may be made only if the consent of the wife has been obtained. No married woman shall, during the life of her husband, make application for a change of the surname acquired from him.

An important amendment to the Change of Name Act in 1946, provided that a mother may apply, with the consent of her husband, if living, for a change in the surname of her unmarried infant children, not being his children, so that their surname shall be her name by marriage.

It also provides that the Director of Child Welfare may apply for a change in the name of a person who is a ward of the Minister of Social Welfare.

In the case of divorce the parent having legal custody of his or her unmarried children may apply for a change of name or names of such children.

Slander of Women

In an action of slander founded on words spoken of the plaintiff imputing unchastity or adultery to a female, whether married or single, it is not necessary to allege or prove any special damage, but such words themselves shall be actionable.

Damages for Seduction

Civil action may be claimed by an unmarried woman who has been seduced. The Seduction Act also states that the father

or mother of the unmarried female may also sue for damages. This civil action should not be confused with criminal proceedings for the punishment of seduction under the Criminal Code.

Damages for Fatal Accidents

Where the death of a person has been caused by a wrongful act, neglect or default, the person who would have been liable if death had not ensued, shall be liable to an action for damages notwithstanding the death of the injured person. Every such action shall be for the benefit of the wife, husband, parent and child of the person whose death was so caused and shall be brought in the name of the executor or administrator of the deceased. Damages may be awarded as are proportioned to the injury resulting from such death to the persons for whose benefit the action is brought.

Automobile Accident Insurance

The Automobile Accident Insurance Act guarantees every citizen in the province quick and just compensation for financial loss in almost every type of motor accident. It provides security to motorists, passengers and pedestrians. The Act provides that each automobile owner and operator must pay small insurance premiums, which go into the Automobile Accident Insurance Fund. It provides for death and funeral, and dismemberment benefits, for supplementary allowances, and for weekly indemnities where there is loss of income due to serious injury. Benefits were increased in 1947 to bring maximum death benefits up to \$10,000 collision insurance, with a \$100 deductible to cover damage to a Saskatchewan vehicle anywhere in Canada, Newfoundland and the United States.

In 1948 new coverage was added to provide public liability insurance to a limit of \$5,000 for one person and \$10,000 for more than one person injured or killed in any one accident. In addition, protection is provided for damage to property up to \$1,000 in any one accident with a deductible of \$100 applicable in Saskatchewan.

Veteran's Dependents Aided

The Department of the Attorney-General will furnish free of charge the legal assistance necessary for probate or administra-

tion in Saskatchewan of estates of members of the Armed Forces resident in Saskatchewan at the time of enlistment, who died on Active Service in the Second World War, or who subsequently died as the result of such service, when the estate does not exceed \$5,000.00 in value.

In addition, the Department will arrange for remission of Surrogate Court fees, Land Titles fees and Official Guardian's fees in such estates and for Transmission of the land to the Executor or Administrator and Transfer to the Beneficiary.

Application for this service should be made to the Department of the Attorney-General, Regina.

MISCELLANEOUS LEGISLATION

(with recent amendments)

- (1) The Change of Name Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 323; 1946, c. 104 am.; 1948, c. 113 am.
- (2) The Libel and Slander Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 90.
- (3) The Seduction Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 91.
- (4) ~~The Fatal Accidents Act, R.S.S. 1940, c. 92.~~
- (5) The Automobile Accident Insurance Act, 1946, c. 11; 1948 c. 15 am.

Saskatchewan Public Health Nurses help guard the health of school children.

